



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Glacier National Park
(A part of Waterton-Glacier
International Peace Park)

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Glacier National Park News Release

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Normal Activity Resuming at Goat Haunt for U.S. Citizens *INS Continues Working on Problem of U.S. Access for Canadians and Foreign Nationals*

WEST GLACIER, MONT. – Glacier National Park interim superintendent Pete Hart today announced that U.S. citizens may resume normal activities at Goat Haunt Ranger Station; however, restrictions remain in effect for Canadians and other foreign nationals until further notice.

On Friday, July 12, 2002, the U.S. Customs Area Port Director conducted cross designation training and authorized law enforcement rangers to perform inspections at the Goat Haunt Port of Entry (POE). Once this designation was in place, all criteria had been met to allow U.S. Citizens admittance into the U.S. and travel in and around Glacier National Park. “In other words,” said Hart, “U.S. citizens may again travel to Goat Haunt Ranger Station, by tour boat or on foot, and may continue on through the park or return to Waterton Townsite at their leisure,” said Hart.

Hart explained that due to the classification of Goat Haunt as a class (B) port, Canadian citizens and other foreign nationals will not be authorized to enter the United States at the Goat Haunt POE, until this port is reclassified or the laws are changed.

Active negotiations continue between NPS managers at Glacier and the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS). Hart added, “We remain hopeful that INS will soon find an agreeable resolution to its heightened security requirements which will meet everyone’s needs so that Canadian citizens and foreign nationals may again enter Glacier at Goat Haunt.”



“We are very pleased that hikers and overnight backpackers, who are U.S. citizens, are again able to enjoy the hiking trails in the vicinity of Goat Haunt Ranger Station as well as other trails leading into the park’s interior south of Goat Haunt, thanks to renewed U.S. Customs cross-designation authorizing NPS rangers to serve as Customs inspectors,” Hart stated. Visitors are reminded that permits are required for all overnight backcountry camping within the park.

Due to heightened security measures at border crossings in the aftermath of September 11, 2002, the NPS was notified in late June 2002 that park rangers were not authorized to permit visitor entry to the U.S. at the Goat Haunt Ranger Station. These expanded security measures will require additional procedures and clearance by INS before any entry into the U.S. will be allowed.

As part of the world’s first international peace park, Glacier’s northern border is adjoins Waterton Lakes National Park along the 45th parallel. Many park visitors learn about the international peace park concept by taking a scenic ride from Waterton Townsite to Goat Haunt Ranger Station. Roughly 37,000 visitors take the boat to Goat Haunt each summer, and it is estimated that 7,000 of these visitors remain in the area to day hike or continue on to pursue backpacking opportunities in Glacier.

This small backcountry border station at the northern end of Glacier National Park along the southern shores of Waterton Lake has long been a traditional point of entry for day hikers and backpackers making their entry into the United States portion of Waterton-Glacier International Peace Park.

Visitors arrive at the station via tour boat operated by Waterton International Shoreline Cruise Company of Waterton Townsite or by hiking the International Boundary Trail. The Waterton International Shoreline Cruise Company temporarily discontinued its 9 a.m. tour to Goat Haunt two weeks ago in response to declining demand for boat service. Please contact the Waterton International Shoreline Cruise Company at 403-859-2362 to confirm its operating schedules.

Park visitors may continue to exit the U.S. from Glacier National Park into Waterton Lakes National Park (Canada) with sufficient documentation.

Updates will be announced, as information becomes available.

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